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Committee for Programme and Coordination
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Agenda item 9
Adoption of the report of the Committee on its forty-fifth session

Draft report

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Addendum

Programme questions: evaluation (item 4 (c))

Conference room paper on proposals for future thematic evaluations by the Office of Internal Oversight Services

1. At its 8th, 9th and 10th meetings, on 10, 13 and 15 June 2005, the Committee considered the conference room paper on proposals for future thematic evaluations by the Office of Internal Oversight Services (E/AC.51/2005/CRP.1).

2. The representative of the Office of Internal Oversight Services introduced the conference room paper and responded to the questions raised during the Committee's consideration of the report.

Discussion

3. Several delegations indicated that the topics presented in the conference room paper were timely and relevant. The point was made that thematic evaluations were a positive addition to the agenda of the Committee. It was also noted that the next thematic evaluation should result in a report with actionable conclusions and recommendations. Concern was expressed regarding the context within which the conference room paper was presented, since there was no specific mandate for it. In this regard, the Committee's decision to review the usefulness of the pilot thematic evaluation project at its forty-sixth session was recalled. The Office of Internal Oversight Services clarified that, given the Committee's decision in 2002 (A/57/16, para. 255) that it should conduct one in-depth and one thematic evaluation each

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year, the conference room paper was presented only as a service to the Committee to facilitate its decision on a topic for the subsequent thematic evaluation.

4. Several delegations indicated that topics A, B and C all had merit. Support was expressed for proposal A, on knowledge management networks. The point was made that this topic would be a relevant follow-up to the first Office of Internal Oversight Services thematic evaluation on headquarters/field linkages and would logically follow as the next thematic evaluation. It was also noted that it would be helpful if the evaluation included an assessment of information technology networks.

5. Several delegations expressed their preference for proposal C, on follow-up to major United Nations conferences and summits. It was noted that this was an all-inclusive topic of relevance to the ongoing reform process in the United Nations, and in particular to the High-level Plenary Meeting of the General Assembly at its sixtieth session. It was also suggested that the evaluation could be more narrowly scoped by focusing on summits and conferences related to resource mobilization within the context of poverty eradication.

6. Support was also expressed for proposal B, on gender mainstreaming. It was noted that this topic was timely and an important part of the work of the United Nations.

7. Some delegations reiterated the decision of the Committee to review the usefulness of thematic evaluation reports at its forty-sixth session.

Conclusions and recommendations

8. **The Committee recommended the theme "Knowledge management networks in the pursuit of the goals of the Millennium Declaration" for the next thematic evaluation by the Office of Internal Oversight Services as a follow-up to the report presented at its forty-fifth session.**